## Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce Receives Certificate of Appreciation for Achievement in Trade

The Certificate of Appreciation for Achievement in Trade recognizes a partner organization for their supporting U.S. export development and for creating opportunities for U.S businesses through trade.

The international market holds endless opportunities for Waco businesses and the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Division has worked diligently to connect enterprises to matching industries to global markets. International trade is one facet of Waco's economic development. The Economic Development Division has continued to diversify the local economy by assisting businesses to make connections with international neighbors.

The Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce has partnered with the Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center (USEAC) in bringing export educational programs to the area, to acquaint businesses with the U.S. federal government programs to market and finance exports. Their outreach efforts have not only included the Greater Waco areas but surrounding rural communities, as well. They have participated in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Trade Roots Program and now hosted a statewide International leadership meeting in Waco. Mr. Pat Nowotny is a participating associate member of the Texas Camino Real Export Council and the Chamber has an active international committee.

We are therefore honoring this chamber's efforts in promoting international opportunities for the local business community to sustain economic growth and in working with the U.S. Department of Commerce Austin USEAC and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in the process.

The Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center is part of a worldwide network of the U.S. Commercial Service, a U.S. Department of Commerce agency that assists small and medium-sized businesses sell their products and services globally. The network includes 107 Centers across the U.S. and more than 150 international offices. There are five centers in Texas, and the Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center extends their outreach to the Waco area. In 2002, the U.S. Commercial Service helped U.S. businesses generate export sales worth more than \$21 million.





